IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method comprising:

storing product data on a server coupled to receive requests from client devices over a network;

generating a set of one or more common search requests for subsets of the product data based on ~~the~~ a frequency of previously received search requests for requesting the subsets of the product data and designation of a search request as a common search request if the search request requests for at least a portion of the subsets of the product data;

performing ~~the generated~~searches in response to the set of common search requests to identify one or more products;

storing on the server ~~an indication of one or more products identified as~~ a result of ~~performing the set of~~ the searches based on the common search requests associated with the identified one or more products;

receiving at the server a subsequent search request from a client device;

determining whether the subsequent search request is equivalent to one of the previously performed common search requests;

providing results from the stored results of the common search requests previously generated in response to the common search requests without performing a search for the subsequent search request, if the subsequent search request is equivalent to one of the common search requests; and

performing the search for the subsequent search request if the subsequent search request is not equivalent to one of the previously performed common search requests.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the product data is stored on one of a plurality of servers, and further wherein and all requests from a particular user during a session are directed to a single server.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein a session comprises all requests that occur between a first request of the session and a predetermined period of time during which no requests are received by the server.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the product data and information related to the session are maintained in volatile memory of the server.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the set of one or more common search requests comprises one or more searches for a category of information related to various products.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the data stores product information for use with an electronic commerce World Wide Web site.

8. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, cause one or more electronic devices to:

store product data on a server coupled to receive requests from client devices over a network;

generate a set of one or more common search requests for subsets of the product data based on ~~the~~ a frequency of previously received search requests for requesting the subsets of the product data and designation of a search request as a common search request if the search request requests for at least a portion of the subsets of the product data;

perform ~~the generated set of~~searches in response to the common search requests to identify one or more products;

store on the server ~~an indication of one or more products identified as~~ a result of ~~performing the set of~~ the searches based on the common search requests associated with the identified one or more products;

receive at the server a subsequent search request from a client device;

determine whether the subsequent search request is equivalent to one of the previously performed common search requests;

provide results from the stored results of the common search requests previously generated in response to the common search requests without performing a search for the subsequent search request, if the subsequent search request is equivalent to one of the common search requests; and

perform the search for the subsequent search request if the subsequent search request is not equivalent to one of the previously performed common search requests.

9. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 8 wherein the product data is stored on one of a plurality of servers, and further wherein and all requests from a particular user during a session are directed to the server.

10. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 9 wherein a session comprises all requests that occur between a first request of the session and a predetermined period of time during which no requests are received by a single server.

11. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 10, wherein the product data and information related to the session are maintained in volatile memory of the server.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 8 wherein the set of one or more common search requests comprises one or more searches for a category of information related to various products.

14. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 8 wherein the database stores product information for use with an electronic commerce World Wide Web site.

15.-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A computer data signal embodied in transmission medium comprising instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, cause one or more electronic devices to:

store product data on a server coupled to receive requests from client devices over a network;

generate a set of one or more common search requests for subsets of the product data based on ~~the~~ a frequency of previously received search requests for requesting the subsets of the product data and designation of a search request as a common search request if the search request requests for at least a portion of the subsets of the product data;

perform ~~the generated~~ searches in response to the set of common search requests to identify one or more products;

store on the server ~~an indication of one or more products identified as~~ a result of ~~performing the set of~~searches based on the common search requests;

receive at the server a subsequent search request from a client device;

determine whether the subsequent search request is equivalent to one of the previously performed common search requests;

provide results from the stored results of the common search requests previously generated in response to the common search requests without performing a search for the subsequent search request, if the subsequent search request is equivalent to one of the common search requests; and

perform the search for the subsequent search request if the subsequent search request is not equivalent to one of the previously performed common search requests.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer data signal of claim 21 wherein the product data is stored on one of a plurality of servers, and further wherein and all requests from a particular user during a session are directed to the server.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer data signal of claim 22 wherein a session comprises all requests that occur between a first request of the session and a predetermined period of time during which no requests are received by a single server.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer data signal of claim 23, wherein the product data and information related to the session are maintained in volatile memory of the server.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) The computer data signal of claim 21 wherein the set of one or more common search requests comprises one or more searches for a category of information related to various products.

27. (Previously Presented) The computer data signal of claim 21 wherein the database stores product information for use with an electronic commerce World Wide Web site.